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RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

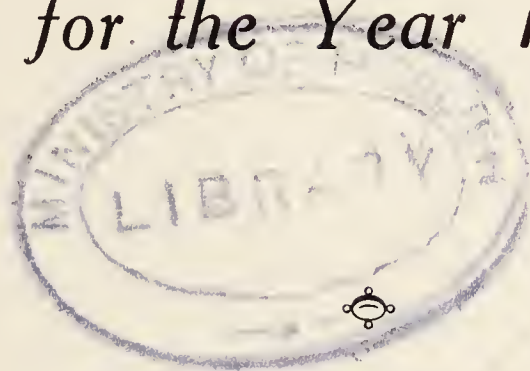


*REPORT*

*of the*


*Medical Officer of Health*

*for the Year 1954*



KINGSBRIDGE:

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# Kingsbridge Rural District Council

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Council Offices, Manor House, Kingsbridge, S. Devon.  
Telephone : Kingsbridge 2246-47.

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MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH,  
Council Offices, Manor House, Kingsbridge, S. Devon.  
Telephone : Kingsbridge 2004.

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CLERK TO M.O.H.  
MISS J. PALK,  
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Telephone : Kingsbridge 2246-47.



KINGSBRIDGE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

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Annual Report  
OF THE  
Medical Officer of Health  
FOR THE YEAR, 1954.

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*Medical Officer of Health* : DR. W. C. SMALES, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.,  
D.P.H.

*Deputy Medical Officer of Health* : DR. W. H. COWPER, M.B.,  
B.CH., B.A.O.

*Surveyor and Sanitary Inspector* : MR. N. HARRIS,  
A.I.A.S., C.R.S.I.

*Sanitary Inspector* : MR. D. J. COLE, A.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.

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The following Committees are concerned with Public Health matters :—Public Health and Housing.

MR. CHAIRMAN, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I beg to present my Report on the health of the district for the year 1954.

**STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.**

Area—70,818 acres.

Population—11,840.

Number of Inhabited Houses at the end of 1954, according to the Rate Book—3,976.

Number of Unoccupied Houses—151.

Rateable Value—£66,893.

Sum represented by a Penny Rate—£271. 8s. 11d.

The Area is mainly an agricultural one, although on the coast-line many of the inhabitants are employed in sea-faring pursuits.

There is an annual influx of visitors during the holiday season over the whole of the district, to which they are attracted by the favourable climate and the beauty of the surroundings.

The conditions of employment and environs are conducive to health and longevity.

## VITAL STATISTICS.

### LIVE BIRTHS :

|              | Total           | Males.         | Females.       | Birth rate per 1,000<br>of the estimated<br>resident population. |
|--------------|-----------------|----------------|----------------|--|
| Legitimate   | 171             | 86             | 85             | 14.69  |
| Illegitimate | 3               | 3              | —              |  |
|              | <hr/> 174 <hr/> | <hr/> 89 <hr/> | <hr/> 85 <hr/> |  |

|                   |   |   |   | Rate per 1,000 total<br>(live and still births) |
|-------------------|---|---|---|---|
| STILL<br>BIRTHS : | 3 | 2 | 1 | 16.94   |

|          |     |    |    | Death rate per 1,000<br>of the estimated<br>resident population. |
|----------|-----|----|----|--|
| DEATHS : | 157 | 72 | 85 | 13.18  |

Deaths as recorded under heading 30 of the Registrar-General's Short List :

|  | Deaths. | Rate per 1,000<br>total live and<br>still births. |
|--|---------|---|
| No. 30 Pregnancy, Childbirth, Abortion | Nil     | Nil   |

Death Rate of Infants under 1 year of age :—

|   |       |       |       |       |
|---|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| All infants per 1,000 live births                       | ..... | ..... | ..... | 17.24 |
| Legitimate Infants per 1,000 legitimate live births     | ..... | ..... | ..... | 17.59 |
| Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births |       |       |       | Nil   |

Death Rate of Infants under 4 weeks of age :—

|   |       |       |       |      |
|---|-------|-------|-------|------|
| All Infants per 1,000 live births                       | ..... | ..... | ..... | 5.75 |
| Legitimate Infants per 1,000 legitimate live births     | ..... | ..... | ..... | 5.84 |
| Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births |       |       |       | Nil  |

# CAUSES OF DEATH :

|     |   |       |       | M. | F. |
|-----|---|-------|-------|----|----|
| 1.  | Tuberculosis of the Respiratory System  | ..... |       | 5  | —  |
| 2.  | Other forms of Tuberculosis             | ..... | ..... | 1  | —  |
| 3.  | Syphilitic Disease                      | ..... | ..... | 1  | —  |
| 4.  | Diphtheria                              | ..... | ..... | —  | —  |
| 5.  | Whooping Cough                          | ..... | ..... | —  | —  |
| 6.  | Meningoccal Infections                  | ..... | ..... | —  | —  |
| 7.  | Acute Poliomyelitis                     | ..... | ..... | —  | —  |
| 8.  | Measles                                 | ..... | ..... | —  | —  |
| 9.  | Other Infective and Parasitic Diseases  | ..... |       | —  | —  |
| 10. | Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach             | ..... | ..... | 2  | 4  |
| 11. | Malignant Neoplasm, Lung, Bronchus      | ..... |       | 2  | 2  |
| 12. | Malignant Neoplasm, Breast              | ..... | ..... | —  | 4  |
| 13. | Malignant Neoplasm, Uterus              | ..... | ..... | —  | 1  |
| 14. | Other Malignant and Lymphatic Neoplasms |       |       | 9  | 9  |
| 15. | Leukaemia, Aleukaemia                   | ..... | ..... | —  | —  |
| 16. | Diabetes                                | ..... | ..... | —  | 1  |
| 17. | Vascular Lesions of Nervous System      | ..... |       | 9  | 19 |
| 18. | Coronary Disease, Angina                | ..... | ..... | 12 | 7  |
| 19. | Hypertension with Heart Disease         | ..... | ..... | 2  | 1  |
| 20. | Other Heart Disease                     | ..... | ..... | 10 | 11 |
| 21. | Other Circulatory Disease               | ..... | ..... | 3  | 7  |
| 22. | Influenza                               | ..... | ..... | —  | —  |
| 23. | Pneumonia                               | ..... | ..... | 4  | 2  |
| 24. | Bronchitis                              | ..... | ..... | 2  | 6  |
| 25. | Other Diseases of Respiratory System    | ..... |       | —  | —  |
| 26. | Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum           | ..... | ..... | 1  | —  |
| 27. | Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea      | ..... | ..... | —  | 1  |
| 28. | Nephritis and Nephrosis                 | ..... | ..... | 1  | 1  |
| 29. | Hyperplasia of Prostate                 | ..... | ..... | —  | —  |
| 30. | Pregnancy, Childbirth, Abortion         | ..... | ..... | —  | —  |
| 31. | Congenital Malformations                | ..... | ..... | 1  | —  |
| 32. | Other defined and ill-defined Diseases  | ..... |       | 1  | 7  |
| 33. | Motor Vehicle Accidents                 | ..... | ..... | —  | —  |
| 34. | All other Accidents                     | ..... | ..... | 2  | 1  |
| 35. | Suicide                                 | ..... | ..... | 4  | 1  |
| 36. | Homicide and Operations of War          | ..... |       | —  | —  |
|     |   |       |       | 72 | 85 |







# PAROCHIAL DISTRIBUTION OF CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE FOR YEAR 1954

| DISEASES                     | Aveton Gifford | Bigbury | Blackawton | Buckland-tout-Saints | Charleton | Chivelstone | Churchstow | East Allington | East Portlemouth | Kingston | Loddiswell | Malborough | Modbury | Ringmore | Sherford | Slapton | South Huish | South Milton | South Pool | Stoke Fleming | Stokenham | Strete | Thurlestone | West Alvington | Woodleigh | Totals |
|------------------------------|----------------|---------|------------|----------------------|-----------|-------------|------------|----------------|------------------|----------|------------|------------|---------|----------|----------|---------|-------------|--------------|------------|---------------|-----------|--------|-------------|----------------|-----------|--------|
| FOOD POISONING               | —              | —       | —          | —                    | —         | —           | —          | 1              | —                | —        | —          | —          | —       | —        | —        | —       | —           | —            | —          | —             | —         | —      | —           | —              | —         | 1      |
| WHOOPING COUGH               | —              | —       | —          | —                    | —         | 1           | —          | —              | 1                | —        | 4          | 1          | —       | —        | —        | —       | —           | —            | —          | —             | —         | —      | —           | 2              | —         | 9      |
| SCARLET FEVER                | —              | —       | —          | —                    | —         | —           | —          | —              | —                | —        | —          | —          | —       | —        | —        | —       | —           | —            | —          | —             | —         | —      | —           | —              | —         | —      |
| MEASLES                      | —              | —       | —          | —                    | —         | —           | —          | —              | —                | —        | —          | —          | —       | —        | —        | —       | 3           | —            | —          | —             | —         | —      | —           | —              | —         | 3      |
| PNEUMONIA                    | —              | —       | —          | —                    | —         | —           | —          | —              | —                | —        | —          | —          | —       | —        | —        | —       | —           | —            | —          | —             | —         | —      | —           | —              | —         | —      |
| POLIOMYELITIS<br>(PARALYTIC) | —              | —       | —          | —                    | —         | —           | —          | —              | —                | —        | —          | —          | —       | —        | —        | —       | —           | —            | —          | —             | —         | —      | —           | —              | —         | —      |
|                              | —              | —       | —          | —                    | —         | 1           | —          | 1              | 1                | —        | 4          | 1          | —       | —        | —        | —       | 3           | —            | —          | —             | —         | —      | —           | 2              | —         | 13     |

## GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.

The PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE AUTHORITY are a Medical Officer of Health (also Medical Officer of Health of Plympton Rural District, Kingsbridge Urban District, Salcombe Urban District, Kingsbridge and Salcombe Port Sanitary Authority, and Medical Officer to the South Devon Water Board).

Deputy Medical Officer of Health (occasional).

One whole-time Surveyor and Sanitary Inspector.

One whole-time Sanitary Inspector.

LABORATORY FACILITIES. The Public Health Laboratory Service provided a service at the South Devon and East Cornwall Hospital, Plymouth, on 3rd June, 1953, for the investigation of communicable disease and the examination of milk, water supplies, ice cream and foodstuffs, etc.

This Laboratory is of great assistance and I am grateful for their willing co-operation at all times.

VACCINATION AND IMMUNISATION are carried out through the general practitioner service or at schools, school clinics and infant welfare centres by the County Council through the County Health Services. Supplies of Diphtheria antigen can be obtained from the County Medical Officer, 45, St. David's Hill, Exeter, and vaccine lymph from the Public Health Laboratory Service, 7, Dix's Field, Exeter.

NURSING ARRANGEMENTS.—District Nurses and Midwives (Devon County Council). There are seven District Nurses/Midwives working in the area, including one County Staff Sister in charge of the group. Supervision is carried out by the County Nursing Officers. All midwives in the area are qualified to administer analgesics..

MIDWIVES.—The Midwives' Act is administered by the County Council which investigates cases of Maternal Mortality and Puerperal Disease. There are seven practising midwives in the District.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE CENTRE.—There is a centre in Kingsbridge which is open on Wednesday afternoons, except on the first Wednesday in each month.

VENEREAL DISEASES TREATMENT.—At the Venereal Disease Dept., City Hospital, Plymouth. Female in-patients are also sent to St. Mary's Home, Exeter. A refund of rail or bus fare can be made in suitable cases by applying to the Medical Officer of the Centre.

Treatment is also available from a certain number of selected General Medical Practitioners specially approved for the purpose by the Ministry of Health. There is one such practitioner at Modbury and another at Kingsbridge.

OPEN-AIR SCHOOL.—The Devon County Council maintain a residential home for the rehabilitation of delicate and debilitated children at Oaklands Park, Dawlish. There is also an open-air school for delicate children at Torquay.

ORTHOPAEDIC TREATMENT is available through the Devon Orthopaedic Association as In-patients at Exeter and Ivy-bridge ; and for adults at Mount Gold Hospital, Plymouth. For Out-patients there is a clinic at Kingsbridge and the South-West Clinic which deals with this district as well, is held at Hartley House, Mannamead, Plymouth.

X-RAYS. The Regional Hospital Board have apparatus for examinations at their Chest Clinics at Exeter, Torquay, Barnstaple and Plymouth.

THE SOUTH HAMS COTTAGE HOSPITAL provides beds for 16 patients from Kingsbridge and the surrounding districts :

|                 |       |       |                  |
|-----------------|-------|-------|------------------|
| Men's Ward      | ..... | ..... | 6 beds           |
| Women's Ward    | ..... | ..... | 6 beds           |
| Children's Cots | ..... | ..... | 2                |
| Private Wards   | ..... | ..... | 2 (one bed each) |

ISOLATION HOSPITAL. Cases of infectious disease are sent to the Scott Isolation Hospital. Patients are removed by the Plymouth Ambulance Service on behalf of the Devon County Council.

AMBULANCE SERVICES. The Ambulance Service throughout Devon is operated in accordance with Section 27 (2) of the National Health Service Act, 1946, through the agency of the Voluntary Organisations. Infectious cases in the Plymouth Infectious Area are carried, by agreement, in the Plymouth Infectious Ambulance.

DOMESTIC HELP SERVICE. In Kingsbridge there is a Home Help Service operated on behalf of the County Medical Dept. by the W.V.S. Home helps are also made available in other areas on application to the Devon County Council.

**TUBERCULOSIS.**

**NEW CASES AND MORTALITY DURING 1954.**

| Age Periods. | New Cases.   |    |                  |    | Deaths.      |    |                  |    |
|--------------|--------------|----|------------------|----|--------------|----|------------------|----|
|              | Respiratory. |    | Non-Respiratory. |    | Respiratory. |    | Non-Respiratory. |    |
|              | M.           | F. | M.               | F. | M.           | F. | M.               | F. |
| Under 1 year | —            | —  | —                | —  | —            | —  | —                | —  |
| 1—5 years    | 1            | —  | —                | —  | —            | —  | —                | —  |
| 5—15 years   | 1            | 1  | —                | —  | 1            | —  | —                | —  |
| 15—25 years  | 1            | 1  | —                | —  | —            | —  | —                | —  |
| 25—35 years  | —            | —  | —                | —  | —            | —  | —                | —  |
| 35—45 years  | 1            | —  | —                | —  | —            | —  | —                | —  |
| 45—55 years  | —            | —  | 1                | —  | —            | —  | —                | —  |
| 55—65 years  | —            | —  | —                | —  | —            | —  | —                | —  |
| 65 and over  | 1            | —  | —                | —  | —            | —  | —                | —  |
| Totals       | 5            | 2  | 1                | —  | 1            | —  | —                | —  |



**NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948.**  
**NATIONAL ASSISTANCE (AMENDMENT) ACT, 1951.**  
**REMOVAL OF PERSONS IN NEED OF CARE AND**  
**ATTENTION.**

During the course of the year, no action was necessary under the provisions of the above-mentioned Acts for the removal and detention in a County Welfare Establishment for aged persons.

**SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.**

SCHOOLS. Inspections of the Elementary Schools in the District are carried out by the Sanitary Inspector and by the Medical Officer of Health in cases needing further attention.

During the year 10 notices were received referring to 48 children who were excluded from school because of communicable disease or because they were contacts :—

They were as follows :

|                |       |       |    |
|----------------|-------|-------|----|
| Whooping Cough | ..... | ..... | 15 |
| Chickenpox     | ..... | ..... | 32 |
| Measles        | ..... | ..... | 1  |
|                |       |       | —  |
|                |       |       | 48 |
|                |       |       | —  |

**WATER SUPPLY.**

Water supplies to the various parishes are as follows :—

AVETON GIFFORD. Moorland Supply. Number of new connections to the main—2.

BIGBURY. Moorland Supply. Number of new connections to the main—9.

BLACKAWTON. Moorland Supply. Number of new connections to the main—2.

BUCKLAND-TOUT-SAINTS. Moorland Supply.

CHARLETON. The Moorland Water main is nearing completion, when it is hoped to replace the present unsatisfactory supply,

CHIVELSTONE. The new 6in. main from Green Lane End to Chillington was completed, thereby cutting out the need to boost at Cousins Cross for the Prawle and East Portlemouth supplies. A further importance of this main is the fact that the anxiety caused by the drawing capacity of the Slade-Sherford main has been eliminated. Number of new connections to the main—1.

CHURCHSTOW. Moorland Supply. Number of new connections to the main—1.

EAST ALLINGTON. Moorland Supply. Number of new connections to the main—4.

EAST PORTLEMOUTH. Moorland Supply. Number of new connections to the main—8.

KINGSTON. Moorland Supply. Number of new connections to the main—Nil.

LODDISWELL. Moorland Supply. Number of new connections to the main—3.

MALBOROUGH. The village mains are now connected to the new mains of the Moorland Supply and the water tower is about to be demolished. Number of new connections to the main—21. Silverhill, Malborough connected to Moorland Supply March, 1954.

MODBURY. The supply main into Modbury has been reserviced and the supply to the village is being improved. Fancy Farm, Modbury, 3in. main extension commenced September, 1954. Number of new connections to the main—7.

RINGMORE. Moorland Supply. Number of new connections to the main—1.

SHERFORD. Moorland Supply. Frogmore Village main connected up to Oddicombe-Charleton main and whole village receiving Moorland water, October, 1954.

SLAPTON. Moorland Supply. New Green Lane End main ensures an alternative supply to this village. Number of new connections to the main—11.

SOUTH HUISH, GALMPTON, INNER AND OUTER HOPE COVE are supplied from private sources, the water being obtained from shallow springs.

A start has been made with a Moorland main for this area.

SOUTH MILTON. Moorland Supply. Number of new connections to the main—2.

SOUTH POOL. Moorland Supply. Number of new connections to the main—2.

STOKE FLEMING. Moorland Supply. Rectory Lane, Stoke Fleming—Pump and old tank finally cut off June, 1954. Number of new connections to the main—6.

STOKENHAM. Moorland Supply. Green Lane End, Chillington, 6ins. main commissioned August, 1954. Number of new connections to the main—20.

STRETE. Moorland Supply. Distribution mains are in the process of being re-laid. Number of new connections to the main—1.

THURLESTONE. Moorland Supply. Number of new connections to the main—1.

WEST ALVINGTON. Moorland Supply. Number of new connections to the main—3.

WOODLEIGH. A scheme for the Moorland Supply for this parish is now under consideration.

STANDPIPES.

Further standpipes remain in the district and they are being dispensed with in due course.

AGRICULTURAL SUPPLIES.

The South Devon Water Board continue to make the Moorland Supply available to farms in the district.

SAMPLING.

During the year, 148 samples of Moorland Water were submitted for bacteriological examination.

The results were as follows :—

|         |       |       |                 |
|---------|-------|-------|-----------------|
| Grade 1 | ..... | ..... | 118             |
| Grade 2 | ..... | ..... | 4               |
| Grade 3 | ..... | ..... | 9               |
| Grade 4 | ..... | ..... | 17              |
|         |       |       | <hr/> 148 <hr/> |

It should be noted that the majority of samples falling within Grades 2—4 were taken from new mains in the course of sterilization prior to them being brought into supply.

Eighteen samples of water were submitted to the Counties Laboratory, London, to test plumbo-solvency. These were reported as satisfactory.

### **SEWERAGE.**

AVETON GIFFORD. Work on constructing a new sewage outfall for this village is still in progress.

BLACKAWTON. The Council's Consulting Engineers have been asked to submit a scheme for extending the sewer in the village so that large quantities of surface water can be eliminated to prevent flooding of the sewage works.

CHARLETON. The sewer at Frogmore has been extended for 60 yards so that a number of houses can be drained into it.

CHURCHSTOW. A scheme for draining the village of Churchstow is being prepared.

CHIVELSTONE—EAST PRAWLE. Further information having been requested by the Ministry, a further scheme is being prepared to construct a rotary filter to treat the effluent from the sewage outfall before being discharged into the stream.

EAST ALLINGTON. A quantity of surface water which was entering the sewers and flooding the works has been taken out and diverted to other channels.

MALBOROUGH. A new scheme to deal with the sewage from properties on the northern side of the village and from a nearby camp is progressing satisfactorily.

SOUTH MILTON. A revised scheme for dealing with the drainage of this village is in course of preparation.

STOKE FLEMING. The work of extending the sewer to the north of the village and the construction of a new sea outfall has been completed with satisfactory results.

STOKENHAM—CHILLINGTON. A scheme is also being prepared for dealing with the drainage of this village. At present, the sewage discharges into septic tanks which are inadequate, and causes a grave nuisance.



STOKENHAM—KELLATON. The sewage of this village is discharged into a septic tank but with the increased drainage from the Council houses, it was found that the existing works were inadequate to cope with the extra quantity of sewerage. A new outfall works was therefore designed with settling tank, rotary filter and sludge beds. This scheme has now been completed and the old system abandoned.

THURLESTONE. Owing to rough seas, this sea outfall was very badly damaged. The concrete surround to protect the pipes was extensively broken up and in some places the pipes themselves cracked. New pipes have now been inserted and the concrete surround replaced.

### HOUSING.

PRE-WAR HOUSING. The Council erected 69 dwellings prior to the war in 1939, and their distribution is as follows :—

| Parish.                 | Name of Site.     | Number of Houses. |
|-------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| BIGBURY                 | Park Cottages     | 4                 |
| BLACKAWTON              | Park Lane         | 4                 |
| KINGSTON                | Park View Terrace | 6                 |
| LODDISWELL              | New Road          | 6                 |
| MALBOROUGH              | Moor View         | 4                 |
| MODBURY                 | Traine Villas     | 6                 |
| SOUTH HUISH (Hope Cove) | Meadow View       | 4                 |
| SOUTH MILTON            | Middle Park       | 6                 |
| STOKE FLEMING           | Venn              | 2                 |
| STOKE FLEMING           | Bailey's Meadow   | 2                 |
| STOKENHAM               | Holbrook Terrace  | 6                 |
| STOKENHAM (Beesands)    | Council Houses    | 6                 |
| STRETE                  | Severn's Cottages | 4                 |
| THURLESTONE             | Sea View Terrace  | 9                 |
| TOTAL HOUSES            |                   | 69                |

POST-WAR HOUSING. Since the war the Council have erected the following new dwellings :—

| Parish.        | Name of Site. | No. of Houses. | No. of A/P Bungalows |
|----------------|---------------|----------------|----------------------|
| AVETON GIFFORD | Icy Park      | 6              | (temporary)          |
| AVETON GIFFORD | Icy Park      | 14             |                      |
| BIGBURY        | Hilltop       | 14             |                      |
| BLACKAWTON     | Main Street   | 2              |                      |
| BLACKAWTON     | The Grove     | 23             |                      |

|                           |                     |       |             |             |
|---------------------------|---------------------|-------|-------------|-------------|
| BUCKLAND-TOUT-SAINTS      | Goveton             |       | 4           |             |
| CHIVELSTONE (East Prawle) | Higher Park         |       | 16          |             |
| CHURCHSTOW                | Woodlands           |       | 12          |             |
| EAST ALLINGTON            | Laburnum Way        |       | 8           |             |
| EAST PORTLEMOUTH          | Cross Lane Cottages |       | 10          |             |
| KINGSTON                  | Yelland's Park      |       | 22          |             |
| LODDISWELL                | Ashwood Park        |       | 30          |             |
| LODDISWELL                | Oakwood Park        |       | 4           | (temporary) |
| MALBOROUGH .....          | Collaton Way .....  | 10    |             |             |
| MALBOROUGH .....          | Jubilee Road        | 18    |             |             |
| MALBOROUGH .....          | Moorside .....      | 3     | (temporary) |             |
| MODBURY .....             | Champernowne        | 34    |             |             |
| MODBURY .....             | Traine Villas ..... | 6     |             |             |
| RINGMORE .....            | Crossways .....     | 8     |             |             |
| SHERFORD .....            | Sherford Down       | 6     |             |             |
| SOUTH MILTON              | Sunnyside .....     | 8     |             |             |
| SOUTH POOL .....          | Creek End .....     | 6     |             |             |
| STOKE FLEMING .....       | .....               | 16    |             | 6           |
| STOKENHAM                 |                     |       |             |             |
| (Chillington)             | Meadowside .....    | 8     |             |             |
| STOKENHAM                 |                     |       |             |             |
| (Chillington)             | Meadowside .....    | 6     | (temporary) |             |
| STOKENHAM                 |                     |       |             |             |
| (Kellaton)                | Hill Park .....     | 8     |             |             |
| STRETE .....              | Hyne Town .....     | 6     |             |             |
| THURLESTONE               | Island View .....   | 7     | (temporary) |             |
| THURLESTONE               | Parkfield .....     | 10    |             |             |
| THURLESTONE               | Sea View .....      |       |             | 5           |
| THURLESTONE               |                     |       |             |             |
| (West Buckland)           | Valleyside .....    | 6     |             |             |
| WEST ALVINGTON            | Townsend Road       | 8     |             |             |
| WEST ALVINGTON            | Townsend Road       | 4     | (temporary) |             |
| WEST ALVINGTON            | Longfields .....    | 12    |             | 4           |
|                           |                     | ----- | -----       |             |
|                           |                     | TOTAL | 355         | 15          |
|                           |                     | ----- | -----       |             |

HOUSING, 1953. The following number of houses are under construction or contracts let, a certain number have been completed and occupied :—

| Parish.                       | Name of Site. | No. of Houses. | No. of A/P Bungalows. |
|-------------------------------|---------------|----------------|-----------------------|
| AVETON GIFFORD                | Icy Park      | 8              | 5                     |
| BIGBURY (St. Ann's Chapel)    |               | 8              |                       |
| SLAPTON                       |               | 10             |                       |
| STOKE FLEMING (Bidders Close) |               | 5              |                       |
| STOKENHAM (Beeson)            |               | 14             |                       |
| STOKENHAM (Holbrook)          |               | 6              |                       |
| THURLESTONE                   |               |                | 3                     |
| MODBURY                       |               | 7              | 3                     |
| SOUTH HUISH (Galmpton)        |               | 12             |                       |
| TOTAL                         |               | 70             | 11                    |

Further contracts for dwellings are in course of preparation :—

|                               |     |
|-------------------------------|-----|
| CHURCHSTOW                    | 12  |
| EAST ALLINGTON                | 16  |
| KINGSTON                      | 8   |
| LODDISWELL                    | 8   |
| MALBOROUGH                    | 14  |
| SLAPTON                       | 17  |
| STOKE FLEMING (Bidders Close) | 10  |
| STOKENHAM (Holbrook)          | 22  |
| STOKENHAM (Kernborough)       | 4   |
| STRETE                        | 15  |
| TOTAL                         | 126 |

## HOUSING.

SLUM CLEARANCE.—During the year, representations were made under the provisions of Part III of the Housing Act, 1936, and Clearance Areas were made as follows :

1. Aveton Gifford, 2 houses. No. of occupants, nil.
2. Blackawton, 6 houses. No. of occupants, 13.
3. Modbury, 2 houses. No. of occupants, 5.

All these areas have since been confirmed, without modification, by the Minister of Housing and Local Government.

## REPAIRS.

### INFORMAL ACTION.

Number of unfit or defective houses rendered fit during the period as a result of informal action by the Local Authority under the Public Health or Housing Acts ..... 34

### ACTION UNDER STATUTORY POWERS.

#### PUBLIC HEALTH ACTS.

Number of Houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :

(a) by owners ..... 1

## SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA.

COMPLAINTS.—32 complaints were received and dealt with, one by formal action, and the remainder by informal action.

DISINFECTIONS. 9 premises were disinfected due to the occurrence of infectious disease and a further 7 premises were found to be verminous and were fumigated.

MOVEABLE DWELLINGS AND CAMPING SITES. 27 inspections were made of various sites in the area. During the year 18 applications were received, 9 applications related to individual caravans, 9 applications related to land used for camping purposes.

Most of the camping in the district is centred in four different areas, namely :—

Challaborough—two licensed sites for 150 caravans each.

Pennymore Lane—one licensed site for 40 moveable dwellings.

Beesands Green—one licensed site for 100 caravans.

Stoke Fleming—one licensed site for 40 caravans.

## INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOODS.

REGISTERED PREMISES. A further 2 properties were registered under Section 14 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1948, for the sale of ice-cream. The total number of premises now registered for this purpose is 39.

There are two dairies registered under the Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949.

INSPECTIONS. 114 inspections were made of shops, ice cream vendors, bakehouses, butchers' shops, dairies and other premises in the area.

## SLAUGHTERHOUSES.

Eight applications were received during the course of the year for licensing of premises as slaughterhouses.

Detailed inspections were made of the premises concerned including an inspection by a Sub-Committee of the Public Health Executive Committee.



Licences were granted to seven applicants pending specified improvements being carried out to bring the properties up to satisfactory standards within a prescribed period.

In six cases, this work was carried out satisfactorily, and in the remaining case the property was sold and used for other purposes.

Of the six properties now licensed, four are used by private butchers and two by wholesale butchers.

### MEAT INSPECTION.

Meat inspection duties take up a considerable amount of time of the Inspector engaged in this work.

For the period ended 31st December, 1954, the following work was carried out :—

No. of visits to slaughterhouses—385.

Mileage travelled in connection with this work—4,940.

Time spent on meat inspection duties—409½ hours.

Carcases inspected : Bulls, 3 ; Cows, 109 ; Bullocks, 146 ; Heifers, 116 ; Calves, 134 ; Pigs, 785 ; Sheep, 666, and Lambs, 1,706, making a total of 3,665 carcases.

The amount of meat condemned was 4 tons 15 cwts. and 14 lbs.

Arrangements have been made for diseased meat to be disposed of to firms with sterilizing plant.

I am grateful to the Dartmouth Borough Council and the Salcombe and Kingsbridge Urban District Councils for their assistance in this work when the Council's Inspector is away.

### INSPECTION OF MEAT AND OTHER FOODS.

Periodical visits are made to various shops in the district, and the amount of unsound food condemned during the year was as follows :—

|                            | cwts. | qrs. | lbs. |
|----------------------------|-------|------|------|
| Meat (imported and canned) | 1     | 3    | 26   |
| Other foods                |       | 2    | 26½  |
|                            | <hr/> |      |      |
| Total                      | 2     | 2    | 24½  |
|                            | <hr/> |      |      |

## FACTORIES ACT, 1937.

### PRESCRIBED PARTICULARS ON THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE FACTORIES ACT, 1937.

#### PART I OF THE ACT.

1. INSPECTIONS for the purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Sanitary Inspector).

| Premises.   | No. in<br>Register. | Inspections. | Number of<br>Written Notices. | Occupiers<br>Prosecuted. |
|---|---------------------|--------------|-------------------------------|--------------------------|
| (1)   | (3)                 | (4)          | (5)                           | (6)                      |
| (i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities                  | 8                   | 5            |                               | —                        |
| (ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Sec. 7 is enforced by the Local Authority                     | 31                  | 23           | 2                             | —                        |
| (iii) Other Premises in which Sec. 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises) | —                   | —            | —                             | —                        |
| TOTAL   | 39                  | 28           | 2                             | —                        |

#### RODENT CONTROL.

The Council provided free treatment for private properties and particular attention was paid to Council property, *e.g.* refuse tips and sewage works, etc.



The following work was carried out during the year :  
TYPE OF PROPERTY.

|  | NON-AGRICULTURAL. |  |                                     | AGRICULTUAL                      |     |
|--|-------------------|--|-------------------------------------|----------------------------------|-----|
|  | Local Authority.  | Dwelling Houses (inc. Council Houses). | All other (inc. Business Premises). | Total of cols. (1), (2) and (3). |     |
| 1. Number of properties in Local Authority's District  | 25                | 3982                                   | 386                                 | 4393                             | 742 |
| 2. Number of properties inspected as a result of :   |                   |  |                                     |                                  |     |
| (a) Notification   | —                 | 236                                    | 32                                  | 268                              | 23  |
| (b) Survey under the Act   | 25                | 1937                                   | 24                                  | 1986                             | 281 |
| (c) Otherwise ( <i>e.g.</i> when visited primarily for some other purpose)                                     | —                 | 34                                     | 5                                   | 39                               | 7   |
| 3. Total inspections carried out—including re-inspections  | 320               | 2576                                   | 116                                 | 3012                             | 382 |
| 4. Number of properties inspected (in Sect. 2) which were found to be infested by :                            |                   |  |                                     |                                  |     |
| (a) Rats—Major   | 6                 | —                                      | —                                   | 6                                | —   |
| Minor  | 13                | 637                                    | 52                                  | —                                | 159 |
| (b) Mice—Major   | —                 | —                                      | —                                   | —                                | —   |
| Minor  | —                 | 71                                     | 9                                   | 80                               | 4   |
| 5. Number of infected properties (in Sect. 4) treated by the L.A.  | 19                | 708                                    | 61                                  | 788                              | 29  |
| 6. Total treatments carried out — including retreatments   | 179               | 1104                                   | 83                                  | 1366                             | 44  |
| 7. Number of notices served under Section 4 of the Act :   |                   |  |                                     |                                  |     |
| (a) Treatment  | —                 | —                                      | —                                   | —                                | —   |
| (b) Structural Work ( <i>i.e.</i> Proofing)  | —                 | —                                      | —                                   | —                                | —   |
| 8. Number of cases in which default action was taken following the issue of a notice under Sect. 4 of the Act. | —                 | —                                      | —                                   | —                                | —   |
| 9. Legal Proceedings   | —                 | —                                      | —                                   | —                                | —   |
| 10. Number of " Block " control schemes carried out  | —                 | 163                                    | —                                   | —                                | —   |

Myxomatosis has been prevalent throughout the district and the co-operation of the County Highways Department was obtained in disposing of the carcasses found on the highway.

### **REFUSE DISPOSAL.**

The Council provide a fortnightly collection of incombustible household refuse throughout the district. This is disposed of in five refuse tips within the area.

Some difficulty is experienced in maintaining a fortnightly collection of refuse, due to the increased demand for this service and the limited capacity of the existing vehicle.

An order has now been placed for the delivery of a larger and more modern type vehicle.

The Council is still actively engaged in the collection of salvage throughout the district, and a special collection is made for this purpose.

During the year ended March 31st, 1955, the following items were collected and sold :

Paper, 147 tons ; Rags, etc.,  $5\frac{3}{4}$  tons ; Non-Ferrous Metals, 4 tons ; Iron,  $17\frac{3}{4}$  tons ; Glass,  $1\frac{1}{4}$  tons ; Bones, 17 cwts. ; and Rubber Tubes, 3 cwts., making a total of  $176\frac{3}{4}$  tons.

Regular inspections are made of all tips especially with regard to rodent and insect control.

I am,

Your obedient Servant,

W. C. SMALES,

*Medical Officer of Health.*

July, 1955.



